

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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O 140132Z JUL 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2530
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 USUN NEW YORK 02888

EXDIS

GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: NEXT STEPS

1. THE WESTERN FIVE MET AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL PM
JULY 13 TO DISCUSS NEXT STEPS ON NAMIBIA AND PARTICULARLY
THE TIMING OF SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION.
AMBASSADOR MCHENRY AND PAUL LAPOINTE (CANADA),
HAVING JUST RETURNED FROM LUANDA, WERE PRESENT AND
OPENED THE DISCUSSION WITH A FIRST-HAND BRIEFING
ON THE LUANDA MEETINGS.

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2. THE BRITISH WERE PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO DISCUSS
SECURITY COUNCIL TIMING AS THEY HAD RECEIVED
INSTRUCTIONS FROM DAVID OWEN URGING THAT EFFORTS
BE MADE TO HOLD A FORMAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING
BEFORE THE KHARTOUM SUMMIT (JULY 18-20). OWEN
SPECIFICALLY SUGGESTED THAT, SIMULTANEOUS WITH A

DEMARCHE TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS RECOUNTING THE LUANDA TALKS, AN APPROACH BE MADE TO TANZANIAN PRESIDENT NYERERE URGING AN IMMEDIATE SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING. AMBASSADOR MCHENRY RESPONDED BY STATING THAT THE CONTACT GROUP HAD DISCUSSED THIS QUESTION OF TIMING WITH TANZANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MKAPA IN LUANDA AND THAT MKAPA HAD URGED THE FIVE TO PROCEED TO THE COUNCIL IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE KHARTOUM SUMMIT AND HAD STRONGLY OPPOSED AN EARLIER SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING.

THE CANADIANS, GERMANS, AND FRENCH AGREED THAT THERE WOULD BE GREAT OPPOSITION FROM AFRICANS TO A MEETING PRIOR TO THE SUMMIT AND THAT, IN ADDITION, A NUMBER OF IMPORTANT AFRICAN DIPLOMATS WOULD BE UNABLE TO BE IN NEW YORK UNTIL AFTER THE SUMMIT. ALSO SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM HAD INFORMALLY BUT STRONGLY ENCOURAGED SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION IN THE WEEK OF JULY 24.

3. IT WAS THEREFORE AGREED TO RECOMMEND TO CAPITOLS THAT NO EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO HOLD A FORMAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING BEFORE THE KHARTOUM SUMMIT. HOWEVER, GIVEN THE FIVE'S SHARED CONCERN FOR SPEED AND CONTINUED MOMENTUM, IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT INFORMAL SECURITY COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS MIGHT BE HELD NEXT MONDAY (JULY 17) TO DISCUSS THE PROGRAM OF WORK FOR CONFIDENTIAL

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THE MONTH OF JULY. AT THOSE CONSULTATIONS THE TWO-STAGE COUNCIL CONSIDERATION WHICH WE ENVISAGE (TWO MEETINGS SEPARATED BY APPROXIMATELY TEN DAYS) COULD BE EXPLAINED AS WELL AS A GENERAL INDICATION OF THE TIMING OF THOSE MEETINGS. THE FIVE QUICKLY ENDORSED THIS IDEA WITH THE PROVISIO THAT THE SOUTH AFRICANS BE BRIEFED ON THE LUANDA TALKS BEFORE ANY SC CONSULTATIONS ARE HELD. DON MCHENRY ADDED AN ADDITIONAL PROVISIO. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE SOUTH AFRICANS ARE LIKELY TO REACT NEGATIVELY IN ANY DISCUSSION WE HAVE WITH THEM CONCERNING HOW WE PLAN TO PROCEED ON WALVIS BAY. THAT REACTION, HE WENT ON TO SAY, MIGHT NEVERTHELESS BE LIMITED BY THE EXTENT TO WHICH THEY SEE THE SECURITY COUNCIL MACHINERY WORKING. MCHENRY THEREFORE STRONGLY URGED THAT THE INFORMAL SC CONSULTATIONS FOLLOW CLOSELY THE SOUTH AFRICAN BRIEFING. THIS POINT WAS ACCEPTED BY ALL, AND AS AN ADDITIONAL INDICATION OF MOVEMENT IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL IT WAS AGREED THAT TOMORROW (JULY 14) THE FIVE SHOULD REQUEST THAT THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED FOLLOWING THE LUANDA TALKS BE CIRCULATED AS A SECURITY COUNCIL DOCUMENT.

4. THE FIVE THEREFORE RECOMMEND AD REFERENDUM THE FOLLOWING SCENARIO:

(A) FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 14: THE CONTACT GROUP WILL DRAFT TALKING POINTS FOR AN APPROACH TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS AND FOR APPROACHES TO THE FRONTLINE STATES. THE SOUTH AFRICAN APPROACH WOULD PROVIDE A BRIEFING ON THE LUANDA MEETINGS AND ON NEXT STEPS. IT IS THE FIVE'S VIEW THAT THIS DEMARCHE SHOULD BE MADE

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GENEVA FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, MOST LIKELY ON SATURDAY, JULY 15.

(IF PRETORIA FIVE BELIEVE IT ADVISABLE, THE FIVE

SUGGEST THAT A TENTATIVE APPOINTMENT WITH

BRAND FOURIE MIGHT BE SET UP FOR SATURDAY EVENING

OR SUNDAY.) THE APPROACHES TO THE FRONTLINE WOULD

EXPRESS OUR APPRECIATION FOR THEIR CONSIDERABLE

SUPPORT IN OBTAINING SWAPO'S AGREEMENT TO THE
PROPOSAL AND WOULD REQUEST THEIR CONTINUED HELP IN
THE UPCOMING SECURITY COUNCIL MEETINGS. THESE
APPROACHES WOULD ALSO BE MADE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
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BUT WOULD NOT NEED TO BE MADE OVER THE WEEKEND;

(B) FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 14: THE FIVE WOULD REQUEST
THE SC PRESIDENT (CANADA) TO CIRCULATE THE JOINT
COMMUNIQUE AS A SECURITY COUNCIL DOCUMENT. THE
SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT WOULD ALSO REQUEST THE
SECRETARIAT TO INFORM THE COUNCIL MEMBERS OF INFORMAL
CONSULTATIONS TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, JULY 17,
TO CONSIDER THE PROGRAM OF WORK FOR THE MONTH. (IF
THE APPROACH TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS CANNOT BE MADE
BEFORE MONDAY, THE CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE POSTPONED
UNTIL THAT APPROACH IS MADE.

5. THE FIVE DID NOT SUGGEST A SPECIFIC DATE FOR THE
FIRST FORMAL SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING ON NAMIBIA,
BUT THE FIVE ARE GENERALLY THINKING OF EARLY IN
THE WEEK OF JULY 24. LEONARD

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